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## Senate

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.  
Eternal God, we are indebted to You for Your many mercies and continue to look to You for our well-being. Remind us that prayer is listening more than speaking, an act of empathy rather than self-expression.

Give our Senators this day the special gifts of wisdom and understanding, patience and strength, motivating them to follow what is true and do what is right. Lord, inspire our lawmakers with a renewed trust in You and a commitment to work together for Your glory.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### DEFAULT PREVENTION ACT OF 2013—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 211, S. 1569, the debt limit bill.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 211, S. 1569, a bill to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until December 31, 2014.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. The time until 12 noon will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

At noon there will be a rollcall vote on a motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 1569, a bill to ensure the complete and timely payment obligations of the United States Government until December 31, 2014.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.J. RES. 79

Mr. REID. I understand H.J. Res. 79 is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the title of the joint resolution for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 79) making continuing appropriations for certain components of the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I would object to any further proceedings at this time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The measure will be placed on the calendar.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 340; that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

### IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. James M. Kowalski

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). The Senate will now resume legislative session.

### DEFAULT PREVENTION ACT OF 2013—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. REID. Madam President, it is very hard to comprehend that 4 days from today, unless and until a few extremist Republicans—we hope it is a few—too radical to compromise, could force a default on the Nation's financial obligations for the first time ever. Economists say it won't be long before financial markets react negatively to this continued uncertainty.

I believe Monday is a legal holiday and I believe the markets will be closed. That is good. What I see staring us in the face is not a pleasant picture.

Everyone should understand that a bad day on Wall Street doesn't only affect these great big banks or wealthy investors. It affects everyone in our country, not only those with 401(k)s but those who have no savings. It affects everybody, because everyone will lose, not only in America but around the world. The life savings of ordinary Americans are at risk, and that is an understatement.

While this uncertainty is bad, default would be unthinkable worse. To show my angst is real, one only need look at what took place in the House of Representatives this morning. They walked out of another meeting, a conference, a caucus—call it what you

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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